

Appl. S.N. 09/682,157
Amdt. Dated April 16, 2005
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 16, 2005

RD-28,738

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed February 16, 2005 wherein claims 1-4, 7, 8 and 10-15 were rejected under USC §103 (a) on Vining et al. (US 2002/0193687A1) in view of Clark (US 6,142,942). Claims 5, 6 and 9 were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations from any base or intervening claims. In this amendment, claims 1 and 7 were amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 5, 6 and 9 and claims 5, 6, 8, 8 and 12-15 were canceled. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-4, 7, and 10-11 remain pending in this application. Reconsideration in light of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendment and for the reasons set out above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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